

Hello, my name is Audrey Dunford, I was born and raised in the North Lawndale. Currently, I am the Court Coordinator for the Restorative Justice Court in North Lawndale that open in September of 2020. The court serves emerging adults aged 18-26 years old. The RJCC uses peace circles to help participants from North Lawndale and some surrounding communities to dispose cases they catch in community. The mission of the court is to repair the harm caused to community, residents, and themselves.

North Lawndale needs revitalization!!!!

The North Lawndale community is located approximately 3 miles west of the Chicago Downtown. As of 2018, the racial composition was 87% African American, 5.27% Hispanic, 8.83% White, .17% Asian, and .61% of some other race. The community continues to struggle with issues of high rates of poverty and unemployment, blighted commercial districts, high crime, poor performing schools, high mortgage foreclosure rates, lack of access to decent and affordable housing, and limited access to health care.

North Lawndale needs revitalization!!!!

North Lawndale covers approximately 40% of the land mass in Representative District 9, and a little more than 20% of Senate District 5. Approximately 80% of North Lawndale's land mass is in the 24th Ward, and the 24th Ward accounts for nearly half of Representative District 9's weighted vote, and about a fourth of the weighted vote for Senate District 5. North Lawndale is in the 7th Congressional District. The voters of Representative District 9 tend to vote Democratic.

North Lawndale needs revitalization!!!!

Under current law, incarcerated persons are not counted in the Census numbers of the community from which they originate, but in the populations of the towns in which they are incarcerated. As a result, the Census numbers in Chicago for African Americans is significantly undercounted, while the numbers in some Downstate communities is inflated by over 95%. I respectfully request that the Legislature support Representative LaShawn K. Ford's proposed legislation to ensure that prisoners are included in the Census counts from their originating communities.

North Lawndale needs revitalization!!!!

Because the State of Illinois' population grew at a slower rate than most states in the country, we will be losing a Congressional seat. Chicago's three Congressional Districts headed by African Americans have each lost population and must expand boundaries. During the last redistricting process, there were proposals to eliminate one of the districts. We respectfully request that any new boundaries be drawn to protect the voting rights of African Americans by ensuring that we

continue to be represented by each of the African American members of the Illinois Delegation. It should be noted that African Americans, as a percentage of Chicago's population was reduced by less than 1 percent during the last Census. It should also be reiterated that our numbers are significantly undercounted due to the numbers of African Americans incarcerated in Downstate prisons.

North Lawndale needs revitalization!!!!

Currently, the entire North Lawndale Community, as defined by Chicago Community Area 29, is located in the 9th Legislative District and the 7th Congressional District. We respectfully request that the House of Representatives Special Committee on Redistricting keep the community intact to ensure that the special needs of our community are addressed by a single legislator. We have heard testimony from social service providers from other communities indicating the level of confusion caused by delivering services to a client base with multiple legislators and other local government officials.

North Lawndale needs revitalization!!!!

I asked that you think of the residents of North Lawndale and the struggles that we have endured since the riots of 1968, the silver shovel scandal, gentrification, and rising property taxes. The residents deserve a chance to be revitalized, rebuilt, and given hope for a prosperous future.